

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

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<b>COUNTRY</b>	China/USSR	<b>REPORT</b>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Repatriation of Russian Emigrants from China to the USSR	<b>DATE DISTR.</b>	19 November 1954
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Shanghai

- On Russian Easter Sunday, 25 April 1954, the Soviet Consulate in Shanghai announced, through the Soviet Citizens Association, that all Russian emigrants in China who had Soviet passports would be permitted to register for repatriation to the USSR, which would take place in the near future. The length of the registration period was three weeks, beginning 26 April. Women past 52 years of age and men past 55 were not permitted to register. During May it was also announced by the Consulate that all those who had cooperated with the Japanese and Germans during World War II would not be repatriated.
- approximately 1,000 registered in Shanghai for the repatriation, but only from 250 to 300 passed the strict physical examinations.

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3. On 5 June the first group of repatriates left Shanghai by rail for the USSR. This group consisted of a total of 45 men, women and children. Each person was permitted to take JPY 4 million, which, according to the Soviet Consulate, would be converted to 800 rubles at the Sino-Soviet border. Each person was permitted to take 44 kilograms of luggage on the train. The rest of his belongings, with no restriction on the weight and size, was sent by ship from Shanghai.
4. Shortly before their departure from Shanghai the Soviet Consulate told the repatriates of the first group that their first destination in the USSR would be Chita. There they would be processed and their ultimate destination, decided by the Soviet authorities, which would be one of three areas: Kazakhstan, the northern Caucasus, or the northern Urals. They would have no choice in the selection of the place.

Tsingtao

5. Of the approximately 260 Russian emigrants in Tsingtao, 240 registered with the Soviet Consulate to go to the USSR shortly after the announcement of the new repatriation program. A member of the Soviet Consulate stated they would be sent to Tsilinu (sic) in the Altay area where they would clear the forests and build roads.<sup>1</sup> On 10 May 1954 the first group of 120 repatriates left Tsingtao for the USSR by rail. The second group was scheduled to leave by rail on 14 June.

Tientsin

6. Of the approximately 900 Russian emigrants in Tientsin with Soviet passports, about 600 registered for repatriation to the USSR shortly after the announcement by the Soviet Consulate in Tientsin on 25 April 1954. The first group of approximately 50 men, women, and children was scheduled to leave Tientsin about 5 June for the USSR by rail.<sup>2</sup>

Harbin

7. In late May, three groups of Russian emigrants from Harbin with Soviet passports left by rail for the USSR. There were about 15 men and women between the ages of 16 and 30 in each group. They were told by the Soviet Consulate in Harbin that their ultimate destination was the Altay mountains area.

1.  Comment. The nearest equivalent to "Tsilinu" in the Altay area is Zhilino (N 53-24; E 84-18).

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2.  Comment. Most Russian emigrants in Tientsin were of the opinion that the new Soviet repatriation program was a reflection of the Chinese government's desire to oust from China all foreigners except the official representatives and Soviet advisers.

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